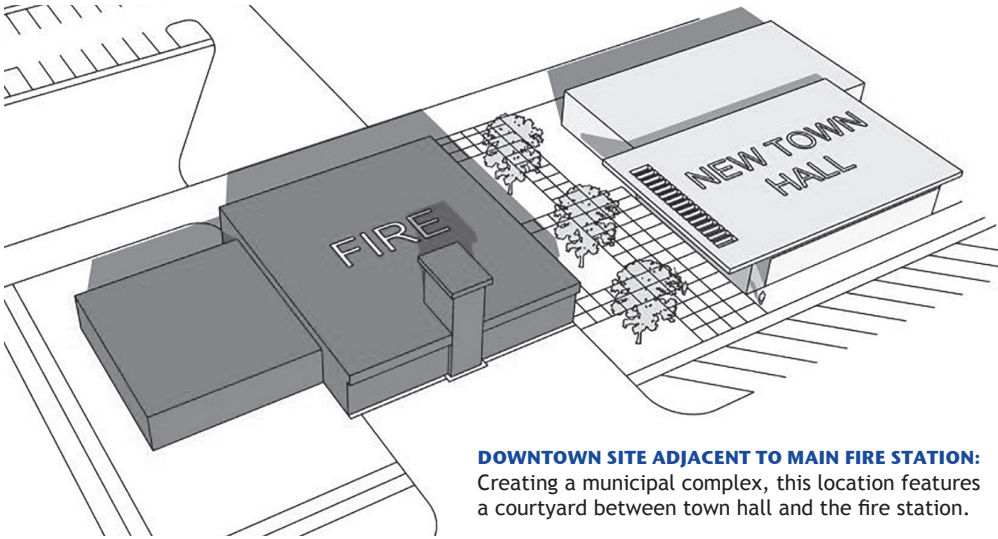


ENJOY MOTHER NATURE'S FINEST! Celebrate Great Outdoors Month by visiting a Highland park — or maybe all 23. From the Erie-Lackawanna Trail to Main Square Park, the town's green spaces offer hiking, biking, picnic shelters, nature areas and so much more!

GAZEBOEXPRESS



YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • JUNE 2016



DOWNTOWN SITE ADJACENT TO MAIN FIRE STATION: Creating a municipal complex, this location features a courtyard between town hall and the fire station.

DOWNTOWN TOWN HALL?

**Council favors downtown site
— adjacent to Main Fire Station —
for new Highland town hall**

The Town Council has narrowed its three possible site choices for a new municipal building down to one favored site — with a twist.

During a study session in May, the council met with Daniel Atilano of Dewberry Architects, and agreed a location near the Main Fire Station at 4th Street and Highway Avenue would be ideal. Dewberry was the architect for Lincoln Community Center and is working as a site consultant on the town hall project.

Instead of converting fire station offices and training rooms, the council asked Dewberry to go back to the drawing board and create a town hall east of the station.

“Once the consultants presented the options, we fell in love with the Highway Avenue site,” Council President Bernie Zemen said. “This is a great location that will have the added benefit of increasing foot traffic downtown.”

The unanimous endorsement for one of two downtown locations took Zemen by surprise.



PUBLIC MEETING

The public is invited to attend the Town Council study session at 7 p.m. June 20 at town hall, 3333 Ridge Road. Town leaders will discuss the preliminary costs and projected timeline for the downtown location.

INFO: For more information on the proposed sites, please visit www.highland.in.gov.

If the Highway Avenue site is ultimately selected, the new town hall would be located next door to the property that housed all town operations until 1969, when the current municipal building was constructed.

A town hall east of Fourth Street would occupy a vacant lot east of the fire station owned by the Redevelopment Commission, as well as two adjacent parcels with buildings that once housed a dentist office and deli. 🐦

ROADWORK UPDATE

The Kennedy Avenue water project is substantially complete with everyone tapped into the new line. New concrete and sod is in place. Street crews will be paving and striping Kennedy Avenue from Highway to 45th this month. Public Works Director John Bach expects the last piece of the project to be complete and all four lanes open to traffic by June 20.

FINKE'S FINALE ...



The former Finke's nightclub comes tumbling down to make way for the new headquarters for Vito's Pharmacy. Private development along Kennedy has significantly improved Highland's southern gateway. [Josh Carlascio photo]

VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

Police are looking for citizens to join the Volunteers in Policing team, who work shoulder-to-shoulder with officers to keep Highland safe.

INTERESTED? Call VIPS Coordinator Cpl. Glenn Cox at (219) 838-3184. If you've submitted an application, we ask that you resubmit. Summer training is fast approaching.



... TOWN TICKER ...

The legacy continues as **STRACK AND VAN TIL** names **JEFF STRACK** CEO of the Highland-based grocer... **DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION OF NWI & CHICAGOLAND** opens a new community center at 2906 Highway Ave. Getting involved is easy. Check it out at dsaofnwi.org. ... The Salvation Army honors former Clerk-Treasurer and Town Councilman **PAUL DOHERTY** for 28 years of service.

PET REGISTRATION & TAGS

Our pets rely on us to keep them out of harm's way.

Police Chief Pete Hohnicki said officers respond to reports of found pets every day. Those with tags are reunited with their owners almost immediately.

Too often, though, officers are finding animals without town tags, delaying the time it takes to match the owner with their beloved canine or feline.

"A veterinary tag, microchip or rabies tag does us no good if the pet is found after hours, because we cannot gain access to their records," Police Chief Pete Hohnicki said. "Town of Highland pet tag registration is maintained in our database and is immediately accessible to our officers. Please, do your pets a favor and keep their tags up-to-date."

Registering is a one-step process that begins and ends at the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, 3333 Ridge Road. Forms require a name, address, telephone number as well as the name, breed, sex and color of the animal as well as spay/neuter information, rabies vaccination details and the veterinary practice name.



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NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

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Rendering of proposed facade

NEXT STEPS: The architects are ready to move on to Phase II of the design, which is scheduled to be completed this summer. Phase II will provide further definition and specifications of the features associated with the theatre, including video, audio, acoustics, equipment, fixtures and finishes.

TOWN THEATRE DESIGNS ON TARGET

Morris Architects and Planners are working their magic on the Town Theatre.

Renderings created by the theatre design specialists call for an extensive rehab of the lobby and a pair of storefronts north of the venue as well as a new auditorium roof and walls.

The resulting structure will have a much larger stage than was originally envisioned, a retractable screen, dressing rooms for live performances and seating for 341.

Town Theatre Board President Dawn Diamantopoulos was pleased to see the increased stage area and reconfigured lobby.

"The design gives us much more flexibility for programming and events," she said.

"We were pleased to see cost estimates in line with the \$1.9 million to \$2.5 million that have been part of the discussion for the last year."

Additional features include a noncombustible roof and structural upgrades that meet earthquake and tornado/wind resistance regulations.

Before moving forward, the Redevelopment Commission will present the final version of the project to the members of the Highland Town Council, who must approve the cost and spending plan. 🐾

POLICE: BEWARE HOME IMPROVEMENT SCAMS

If you're thinking your siding or roof could use a little TLC or that your landscaping needs more than a little pruning, you're not alone.

Summer is prime time for whittling that honey-do list. The town applauds your efforts, but wants to keep you safe from scam artists who prey on residents who don't know if their furnace needs to be replaced or a contractor's promise to waterproof the basement is legit.

"We hear from people who don't realize someone is duping them until the scammers have taken the money and run," Police Chief Pete Hohnicki said.

"Legitimate contractors have town licenses. If you don't know the person you are hiring, contact the Building Department for a list of licensed contractors. A bit of preplanning can eliminate headaches down the road." 🐾

WHAT YOU CAN DO ...

- ✓ Lock your doors when working outside.
- ✓ Don't talk to strangers.
- ✓ Never let anyone inside your home.
- ✓ Do not accept a service if you had not requested it from a legitimate company.
- ✓ Check credentials. All Town of Highland employees as well as other utility contractors wear identification and usually drive a vehicle with company markings.
- ✓ If considering a contractor, first call the Inspections Department at (219) 972-7595 to ensure they meet the licensing qualifications. All contractors doing work within the Town of Highland must register with the town and be licensed and bonded as well as display proper marking with their company logo on their vehicles.
- ✓ Keep an eye out on your elderly neighbors.
- ✓ Report any suspicious activity immediately by calling 911.

Summer CAMP

HIGHLAND PARKS AND RECREATION

Before the school year ever ends, Payton Svihlik begins a one-girl crusade to talk her mom into sending her to summer camp at Lincoln Community Center.

Reagan Svihlik said her soon-to-be fifth-grade daughter doesn't have to do much to convince her; she loves the camp as much as Payton.

"As a parent, you always want your children to be in a place where they are safe and well-cared for. Lincoln Center's summer camp is all that – and more," she said. "Payton wants to go to camp every day – even when I am not working."

In addition to regular activities, the camp features outings that include the zoo, bowling and even Cole's Olympics, which is named after one of the counselors.

Recreation Supervisor Matt Jillson said the counselors have as much fun as the summer campers.

"This is a great camp, whatever the need. Children can come one day a week or all five," Jillson said. "We have lessons, games, crafts, songs, sports and activities that correspond to the theme, which changes every week. We work to engage every child, because we want them to have fun."

CAMP DETAILS

AGES: 5-12 (must have completed Kindergarten)

WHEN: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday – Friday through August 5. Pre-camp is from 7 to 8:30 a.m.

CAMP FEES: \$105/\$110 weekly; \$25/\$30 daily

PRE-CAMP FEES: \$30/\$35 weekly; \$6/\$7 daily

WHERE: Lincoln Center serves as the camp's main location. Campers will also take walking trips to various locations around Highland including the Highland Public Library and the Wicker Park Splash Pad. There will also be opportunities to take three field trips around Chicago and Northwest Indiana.

INFO: Please call the park office at (219) 838-0114 or visit highlandparks.org.



2ND ANNUAL LUAU PARTY

Say aloha to summer fun with our annual luau party. Hosted by Highland American Legion Post 180, this family-friendly event features a delicious pig roast, fantastic music and fun activities, including a photo booth, horseshoe and bags. We'll continue the aloha spirit with a bonfire after dark. Proceeds benefit Highland American Legion Post 180 programs, including much-needed building repairs.

WHEN: Begins 3 p.m. **JUNE 18**

WHERE: American Legion Post 180, 2703 Jewett Ave.

COST: \$10/person includes free drafts

INFO: Call Luau Coordinator Stephanie Schillo at (219) 671-1208.

CHICAGO CUBS OUTINGS

Come out and enjoy a ball game – or two – this summer at the friendly confines! Let Highland Parks and Recreation take care of the transportation and seating. Limited tickets are available for this all-ages outing. Fans under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

JUNE 19: 7:08 p.m. game time
Cubs vs. Pittsburgh Pirates - Sec. 231

JULY 31: Game time TBD
Cubs vs. Seattle Mariners - Sec. 209

WHERE: Wrigley Field, Chicago

TICKETS: Tickets can only be purchased in advance at the Lincoln Community Center. The \$79 per ticket fee includes school bus transportation to and from Lincoln Community Center. Bus departs about 3 hours before game time.

NOTE: Attendees may be required to walk four blocks to the bus parking area following the game.

QUESTIONS: Please call the Highland park office at (219) 838-0114.

BEER GARDEN FESTIVAL

The 19th annual Beer Garden Festival, hosted by Our Lady of Grace Church, features cold beer and fabulous food. Soda and water will also be available.

WHEN: 6 p.m.-midnight **JUNE 30-JULY 4**

WHERE: Our Lady of Grace, 3025 Highway Ave.

INFO: Call (219) 838-9094, (219) 838-7838 or (219) 838-0395.





ATTEND THE FESTIVAL

The Fourth of July Festival kicks off at Main Square Park and features ...

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

FESTIVAL: 5-9 PM
WRISTBANDS: \$20 from 5-10 PM
5:30 - 7 PM Greg Ashby & Mike Horgash
7:30 - 9:30 PM Kashmir

FRIDAY, JULY 1

FESTIVAL: 5 PM - midnight
WRISTBANDS: \$20 from 5-10 PM
5:30 - 7 PM Chronister & Soto
7:30 - 9 PM Nomad Planets
9:30 - 11:30 PM Midlife Crisis

SATURDAY, JULY 2

FESTIVAL: 1 PM - midnight
1 - 3 PM Lacey
3:30 - 5:30 PM The Concept
5:30 - 7:30 PM DJ
7:30 - 9 PM Five O'Clock Shadow
9:30 - 11:30 PM Dancing Noodles

SUNDAY, JULY 3

FESTIVAL: 1 PM - midnight
WRISTBANDS: \$20 from 1-5 PM
1:30 - 3 PM Ed Pakan
4 - 5:30 PM Underground Prophets
7 - 8:30 PM Got Issues
9:30 - 11:30 PM Five Guys Named Moe

MONDAY, JULY 4

FESTIVAL: 1 - 10 PM
WRISTBANDS: \$20 from 1-5 PM
LAST BLAST: \$15 from 5-9 PM
1 - 2 PM TBD
2:30 - 4 PM Take 5
5 - 6:30 PM Highland Reign
7:30 - 9:30 PM Mr. Funnyman

Look around town for \$2 discount wristband coupons.

INFO: Call (219) 670-0764.

ENJOY THE FIREWORKS

Grab a blanket or your favorite lawn chair and join us for Highland's fireworks display at 9 p.m. July 4 at Homestead Park.

KNOW THE RULES

Fireworks are allowed between 5 p.m. and two hours after sunset June 29 through July 9. The exception is July 4 between 10 a.m. and midnight. "Fireworks can be dangerous," Police Chief Pete Hohnick said. "Take every precaution to stay safe."

RUN THE MILE

The All-American Mile Run, sponsored by First Financial Bank, kicks off the Twilight Independence Day Parade. All participants receive a dry-fit T-shirt. Entry forms are available at Lincoln Center. Register race day from 5 to 6:15 p.m. on Kennedy Avenue by the high school. Open to all age groups, the race begins at 6:30 p.m. July 2 at 40th Street and Kennedy Avenue. The fee is \$10 through June 30 and \$15 on race day.

TOP PRIZES: Awards for Top 3 in each age division. Males with the fastest sub 4-min mile and females with the fastest sub 5-min mile win a \$250 prize.

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

WATCH THE PARADE

This year's Fourth of July Twilight Parade begins at 6:30 p.m. July 2 at St. James the Less Catholic Church (45th and Kennedy), continues north on Kennedy to Highway Avenue and east along Highway to the park. A kiddie parade begins at 12:45 p.m. July 4 in the parking lot across from Traditions.

INFO: For parade info, call Erica Wolak at (219) 718-1610. For Kiddie Parade info, call Elmo Parlor (219) 923-8959.

RED HOT TENNIS CAMP

Learn proper tennis techniques from instructors Steve and Ofelia. Steve is a longtime USPTR tennis pro at Match Point and head coach at Calumet College. Ofelia is a USPTR tennis pro at Match Point, assistant girls tennis coach at Highland High School and assistant coach at Calumet College. Camp is open to boys and girls 5 to 18 years old. Dress comfortably and bring your own tennis racquet and water.

SESSION 1: Monday - Thursday, **JUNE 13 - JULY 1**

SESSION 2: Monday - Thursday, **JULY 11 - 29**

WHEN: 8 to 9:30 a.m. or 9:30 to 11 a.m.

WHERE: Highland High School tennis courts
FEES: \$140/\$150 per 3 week session; \$95/\$105 per 2 week session; \$50/\$55 for 1 week.

ACTIVITY CODE: 160001

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

SOUNDS OF SUMMER

Sultry skies and oh-so-warm evening temperatures lend themselves to spending time outdoors. Grab a comfy lawn chair and your favorite bug spray and head to Main Square for Highland Park's summer concert series.

JUNE 9: The Nevery Brothers - *rock 'n' roll*

JUNE 16: Wild Daisy - *country (no rain-out location)*

JUNE 23: Meet the Beetles - *rock*

JULY 7: Dan Mateja & the IPA Tribute Band
- legendary polka music

JULY 14: SODA - *modern*

JULY 21: Fast Eddie & The Corvettes - *50s-70s*

WHEN: 7 to 9 p.m.

WHERE: Main Square Park Gazebo

NOTE: In the event of inclement weather, concerts will be held in the Lincoln Center Fieldhouse. Please bring your own chair.

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

YOUTH TRACK & FIELD

The Highland Parks & Recreation youth track team is designed to benefit boys and girls — ages 4 -12 — of all talents and experiences. Boys and girls compete separately in four events within their age bracket.

WHEN: 6 to 7:30 p.m. **JUNE 8 - AUGUST 10**

WHERE: Highland High School outdoor track

FEES: \$50/\$55. Deadline to register is **JUNE 5**.

ACTIVITY CODE: 348033

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

OUTDOOR STREET MARKET

Support local businesses and enjoy the warm weather at the annual street market featuring live music, local produce and artisanal goods.

WHEN: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, **JUNE 4-OCT. 15**.

No market **JULY 2** because of the holiday.

WHERE: Main Square Park

VENDOR FEES: \$21.40 (\$5.35 for electric) weekly, \$85.60 (\$16.05 for electric) 8-week rate, \$171.20 (\$21.04 for electric) seasonal.
NOTE: Tables, chairs, cords are not provided.

INFO: (219) 838-0114 or highlandparks.org.

